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Curved


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curve  [Audio Help](#) (kûrv) [Pronunciation Key](#)

n.

- a. A line that deviates from straightness in a smooth, continuous fashion.
- b. A surface that deviates from planarity in a smooth, continuous fashion.
- c. Something characterized by such a line or surface, especially a rounded line or contour of the human body.
- d. A line representing data on a graph.
- e. A trend derived from or as if from such a graph: *"Once again, the politicians are behind the curve" (Ted Kennedy).*
- f. The graph of a function on a coordinate plane.
- g. The intersection of two surfaces in three dimensions.
- h. The graph of the solutions to any equation of two variables.
2. A relatively smooth bend in a road or other course.
3.
 - a. A line representing data on a graph.
 - b. A trend derived from or as if from such a graph: *"Once again, the politicians are behind the curve" (Ted Kennedy).*
 - c. The graph of a function on a coordinate plane.
 - d. 
 - e. The graph of the solutions to any equation of two variables.
4. A graphic representation showing the relative performance of individuals as measured against each other, used especially as a method of grading students in which the assignment of grades is based on predetermined proportions of students.
5. *Mathematics*
 - a. The graph of a function on a coordinate plane.
 - b. The intersection of two surfaces in three dimensions.
 - c. The graph of the solutions to any equation of two variables.
6. *Baseball* A curve ball.
7. *Slang* Something that is unexpected or designed to trick or deceive.

v. curved, curv·ing, curves

v. *intr.*

To move in or take the shape of a curve: *The path curves around the lake.*

v. *tr.*

2. *Baseball* To pitch a curve ball to.
3. To grade (students, for example) on a curve.

[From Middle English, *curved*, from Latin *curvus*; see *sker-*² in Indo-European roots. N., sense 6, short for curve ball.]

curv'ed · ness *n.*, **curv'y** *adj.*

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The American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language, Fourth Edition

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curved

adjective

having or marked by a curve or smoothly rounded bend; "the curved tusks of a walrus"; "his curved lips suggested a smile but his eyes were hard" [ant: [straight](#)]

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curved *adjective*

Example: *a curved blade*

<i>Arabic:</i> مقوّس	<i>Japanese:</i> 曲線状の
<i>Chinese (Simplified):</i> 弯曲的	<i>Korean:</i> 굽은
<i>Chinese (Traditional):</i> 彎曲的	<i>Latvian:</i> izliekts
<i>Czech:</i> zkroucený, zakřivený	<i>Lithuanian:</i> (iš)lenktas
<i>Danish:</i> krum; buet; kurvet	<i>Norwegian:</i> buet, bueformet, krum
<i>Dutch:</i> gekromd	<i>Polish:</i> zakrzywiony
<i>Estonian:</i> kaardus	<i>Portuguese (Brazil):</i> curvo
<i>Finnish:</i> kaareva	<i>Portuguese (Portugal):</i> curvo
<i>French:</i> courbé	<i>Romanian:</i> curbat
<i>German:</i> gekrümmt	<i>Russian:</i> изогнутый
<i>Greek:</i> κυρτός	<i>Slovak:</i> skrútený
<i>Hungarian:</i> görbe	<i>Slovenian:</i> ukrivljen
<i>Icelandic:</i> bogadreginn, sveigður	<i>Spanish:</i> curvo, encorvado
<i>Indonesian:</i> melengkung	<i>Swedish:</i> böjd, krökt, svängd
<i>Italian:</i> curvo	<i>Turkish:</i> eğri

See also: [curve](#)